

## STEP-BY STEP FIRE ESCAPE PLAN



The Garcia family makes a fire escape plan. First, they draw a floor plan of their home. Next, the family finds two exits out of every room and marks it on the plan. Then, they choose a safe meeting place outside their home in case of emergency.



Emergency numbers are placed next to every phone and both children know the emergency numbers by heart. Everyone knows they must escape first, and then call for help from outside.



Mom knows that a fire grows very fast. In a fire, it is hot and dark from the smoke. There is very little time to get to a safe place outside.

Mom looks for things that might slow her and her children from getting outside fast. She makes sure all doors and windows open easily.



A safe home is in your hands.



Mom moves toys and things off the stairs to keep the way out clear.



Smoke alarms are installed on every level of the home and near sleeping areas. Mr. Garcia tests them once a month. He puts in a new battery once a year. When the smoke alarm makes a sound like a bird – chirp! – this means it needs a new battery.

Mr. Garcia pushes the button on the smoke alarm so everyone will know the sound it makes if there is a fire. The family knows what to do if the smoke alarm goes off.



Mom teaches John to feel around the door frame and check for heat in the event of a fire. If the door feels cool, it means it is safe to open it slowly, checking to be sure no smoke or flames are nearby. If the door feels warm, it may mean a fire is nearby and they will need to use the window as a second exit.

A safe home is in your hands.



John and his mom know how to set up an escape ladder. If the main path out of an upstairs bedroom is blocked by smoke or fire, they will need to use the window as a second exit.



John and his mother practice using the escape ladder from a ground-floor window.



The family practices their fire escape drill two times a year. They feel doors before opening them, in case smoke or fire is on the other side.

A safe home is in your hands.



John and his family practice in the daytime. They practice at night. After checking for heat, John slowly opens the door. He does not see smoke. He can go out this way.



Carla, John and Mom practice what it would be like to escape if there is smoke nearby. They get down on hands and knees and crawl along the floor.

Crawling low under smoke to escape a fire is important because smoke rises. The air near the floor is safer because there is less smoke and heat down low.



Some children can sleep through the loud sound of the smoke alarm. Mrs. Garcia holds another fire drill when the children are sleeping. This way, she knows whether or not the alarm will wake them. If not, she will need to help them during fire drills and if the smoke alarm goes off when they are sleeping.



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The family pretends there is a fire. They get outside fast. They do not go back in. Mom uses her phone to call the fire department. The family can also call for help from Mrs. Lee's home next door.



Tina, Carla and John reach their family meeting place safely.





A safe home is in your hands.

John and Carla put their plan on the refrigerator. They will see the plan and practice it. They are proud to know what to do in a fire!